

BOOK REVIEWS

Black's Medical Dictionary. By Dr. J. D. Cowrie.

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The Clinics of John B. Murphy, M. D., at Mercy Hospital, Chicago. Volume III; number IV. Octavo of 254 pages, 65 illustrations. W. B. Saunders Company, Philadelphia and London. Published bi-monthly. Price per year: Paper, \$8; cloth, \$12.

Contents—Murphy's clinical talks on surgical and general diagnosis. Arthroplasty of hip. Ascending root neuritis following amputation of the cauda equina close to the condus. Malignant papillomatous cyst of the breast. Differential diagnosis. Operation. Paralytic ileus from cryptogenic peritonitis. Old ununited Colles' fracture. Open reduction. Nailing of the fragments. Left facial nerve paralysis of congenital origin. Macroglossia. Spinofacial nerve anastomosis. Paralysis of the right facial nerve the result of a basal skull fracture. Fracture of the styloid process. Spinofacial nerve anastomosis. Intra-uterine fibroid. Hysterectomy. Paget's cancer. Carcinoma of the rectum with ulceration. Iliac sigmoidostomy. Radical excision. Sarcoma of humerus. Cerebellar tumor. Suboccipital decompression. Congenital luxation of the patella. Reduction. Excavation of a groove in the femur for its lodgment. Plastic operation and imbrication of joint capsule to hold it in its new position. Recurrent luxation of left patella. Internal imbricating flap operation. Paralysis of right leg with a flail-joint at the ankle. Arthrodesis. Postoperative ventral hernia following appendiceal abscess. Imbrication operation.

Materia Medica for Nurses. By A. S. Blumgarten, M.D. Published by the Macmillan Company, New York, 1914. Price, \$2.50.

Blumgarten's "Materia Medica for Nurses" is a complete but not technical work of about 650 pages. Little attention is given to therapeutics as his object is "to develop intelligent trained observers of the effect of drugs and to enable nurses to administer medicines accurately." It is more extensive than any other work of its kind due to added chapters on "Prescription Writing" and on most of the "New and Unofficial Remedies" in common use. Probably the most important addition is the lengthy chapter on "Solutions." This heading includes original and easy methods of making accurate solutions and tables on "Saturation Points" and on "Usual Strength of Standard Solutions." The chapter on "Anesthesia" has the usual simple, outline arrangement, but is probably most open to criticism in inaccuracy in some of the details. As a whole, this book is much less technical than former works, being well arranged, easily understood and excelling in its simplicity.

E. H. W.

Practical Medicine Series. Vol. 3. The Eye, Ear, Nose and Throat. Series 1914. The Year Book, publishers, Chicago. Price, \$1.50.

The present volume is up to the usual standard of excellence. Its chief value lies in the fact that the foreign journals as well as some of the less important American journals are fully covered. For the first time, the literature of the hypophysis is fully discussed, as it is now well recognized that

most of the operations on this gland fall naturally into the hands of those rhinologists whose training makes the intranasal route familiar ground for them. Preysing's transsphenoidal route, by way of the base of the skull, is described and the results of seven cases given. (His experience now covers 15 successful cases).

One of the most interesting portions of the book is devoted to the various uses of bacteriology in ear, nose and throat diseases. Many articles are reviewed on the use of autogenous vaccines, polyvalent vaccines, stock vaccines, etc. These signs tend to show that the modern well trained specialist must have a thorough and practical knowledge of this science.

The work of Greenfield Sluder and Holmes, on the treatment of intractable trifacial neuralgias by means of injections into the sphenopalatine ganglion, attracts the attention which by its great originality it deserves. The method is an intranasal one, and naturally will fall largely into the hands of the rhinologist.

Mayer, of New York, following out the well-known work of several German investigators, has very successfully treated 93 cases of dysmenorrhea by the local application of cocaine to the proper centers in the nose. This subject has been greatly neglected in America and his results may succeed in arousing new interest in the subject. H. H.

Genito-Urinary Surgery. By Thomson Walker. Surgical Diseases and Injuries of the Genito-Urinary Organs. With 27 color and 21 black-and-white plates and 279 illustrations in the text. 8 vo., 790 pages. Price, \$7.00. Funk & Wagnalls Company, publishers, New York.

The preeminent position of Mr. Thomson Walker in British urology has made his authorship of a comprehensive work embodying the fruits of his experience, observations and studies decidedly welcome and desirable. If Mr. Walker is an authority the present work casts aside any doubt of his position. It alone would earn him the title.

Throughout the book is attractive, the subject matter admirably handled, showing maturity of thought and definiteness of purpose. The text is well balanced, never ambiguous or half baked. The writer treads upon firm ground and this effect of stability is borne upon the reader and carried throughout. The style is splendid. The descriptions are vivid and clear and show a gifted mastery of language for this purpose.

The whole ground of genito-urinary surgery is covered. Some of the rarer conditions receive scarcely more than categorical mention. Portions might have been curtailed or omitted. It would seem that no work on urinary diseases is complete unless it contains a detailed description of the method of passing a urethral instrument with the usual illustrations, though probably the technic is never learned from a book. The best features in Mr. Walker's book are his descriptions of gross morbid anatomy, his systematic grouping and discussion of symptoms and his handling of the therapy, which though brief is clear, and whatever recommendations are made are the result of the author's extensive experience and a critical study and analysis of his own results. Liberal notice is given of the work of others both at home and abroad and their methods and results freely quoted. Certain developments of urological practice in this country might have been given some consideration. Beer's high-frequency treatment of bladder papillomata just receives mention. Buerger's urethroscope is not mentioned. Young's prostatic punch for median bar obstruction is not mentioned.

On the whole the work creates a very favorable and lasting impression. M. S.